



**Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**

419 Jones Street PO Box 802 Menville, IA 51039-0802  
 West Fork Catholic Office/Kitchen (712) 873-3644 and Fax (712) 873-3931  
 Email [icmenville@wiatel.net](mailto:icmenville@wiatel.net)

**St. Michael Catholic Church**

208 Brandon Street PO Box 99 Kingsley, IA 51028-0099  
 Church Hall (712) 378-2722 Education Center (712) 378-2021  
 Email [stmichael@wiatel.net](mailto:stmichael@wiatel.net)

**ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

**MONDAY—DECEMBER 19**

**Fourth Monday of Advent**  
 7:30 a.m. Eucharist [*Paul & Kathryn Parks+*]  
 - Menville

**TUESDAY—DECEMBER 20**

**Fourth Tuesday of Advent**  
 7:30 a.m. Rosary - Menville  
 8:00 a.m. Eucharist [*Bob & Pat Stratton+*]  
 - Kingsley  
 6:30 p.m. ICC Pastoral Council Meeting - Menville  
 8:00 p.m. ICC Finance Council Meeting - Menville

**WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 21**

**Fourth Wednesday of Advent**  
 7:30 a.m. Eucharist [*Geraldine Ann Niewohner+*]  
 - Menville  
 4:00 p.m. ICC Maranatha/Cookie Decoration  
 - Menville  
 4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-4] - Kingsley  
 4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-4] - Menville  
 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [5-12] - Kingsley  
 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [5-8] - Menville

**THURSDAY—DECEMBER 22**

**Fourth Thursday of Advent**  
 7:30 a.m. Rosary - Menville  
 8:00 a.m. Eucharist [*Lorraine McDermott+*]  
 - Kingsley

**FRIDAY—DECEMBER 23**

**Fourth Friday of Advent**  
**OFFICES CLOSED**  
 7:30 a.m. Rosary - Menville

**SATURDAY—DECEMBER 24**

**Fourth Saturday of Advent**  
 5:00 p.m. Eucharist [*Bob & Pat Stratton+*]  
 - Kingsley  
 10:00 p.m. Eucharist [*Millie Wycoff+*] - Menville

**SUNDAY—DECEMBER 25**

**The Nativity of the Lord**  
 9:00 a.m. Eucharist [*Rick Schorg+*] - Menville

**WHAT'S HAPPENING  
 IN OUR PARISH**

Please visit the WFCC website to find more information about both parishes, to read and/or download this weekly bulletin, to read the latest news, and to learn more about our faith.  
<http://www.westforkcatholiccommunity.org>  
**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!** Search for West Fork Catholic Community.

**18 December 2016**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Sometimes people ask why we pay so much attention to Mary. The story is told about a priest who was challenged by a man: "I don't understand why you Catholics make such a big deal about Mary. I don't see much difference between her and my mom." The priest thought for a second and then replied, "Well, I don't know about the difference between the two mothers. But let me tell you: There is a big difference between the two sons!"

As the story indicates, the reason we place so much emphasis on Mary is because of her son - Jesus. He is our Lord and Savior. In this week's Gospel we hear that Jesus is "Emmanuel," that is, "God is with us." Mary's great importance comes from the fact that she is mother of our savior, Jesus - God with us.

Mary carried Jesus in her womb for nine months. She nursed him and took care of him the way a mother does for any child. She was the mother of Jesus and we can accurately call her "Mother of God." Not that she existed before God, but that she gave birth to Jesus, who is the second person of the one, true God.

To help explain Mary's relationship to Jesus, I have heard of her relationship being compared to the relationship between Jupiter (the largest planet in our solar system), and its moon named IO (EYE-oh). Being so far from the sun, the surface of IO is extremely cold. But IO has surprised scientists. They have discovered that IO has the largest and hottest volcanoes in the entire solar system! How can it be that such a small, cold moon can have such strong and hot volcanoes? Well, it turns out that the giant planet Jupiter's gravity causes "tides" in IO that exert an enormous pull on IO and the geological stress resulting from Jupiter's gravity is the source of the volcanic energy. Thus, the energy that feeds IO's volcanoes does not come from IO itself, but from its closeness to Jupiter. In a similar way, Mary's importance does not come from herself, but from her closeness to Jesus.

That closeness had a price. Just like Jupiter's gravity causes IO to bend and stretch, so Mary's closeness to Jesus brought her great suffering. We get a glimpse of that in the confusion that followed her virginal conception of Jesus. Her betrothed husband, Joseph, did eventually accept her back, but his initial reluctance must have brought her terrible pain. It foreshadowed an even greater suffering that she would experience three decades later. She would hear her son say to his disciples, "Who is my mother?" Jesus was not all sweetness and light. He called people to bend and stretch - even his mother... **especially his mother!** He was preparing her for the greatest suffering of all - the suffering she would experience at the foot of the cross.

So, yes, we do honor Mary. We do pay particular attention to her. We do make a big deal about her. She was the closest to Jesus -- which surely brought her great joy -- and tremendous suffering.

*Fr. Brad Pelzel*

**BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. Brad** is at St. Michael, Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m. We will be covering Royal Kingdom—Part 1. If you are still interested in joining it isn't to late!



**MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 24 5:00 P.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Kevin Seuntjens, Madison Wurth, Austin Korynta
- Reader(s):** Kylie Beelner, Karen Malm
- Cantor:** Angie Haggin
- Organist:** April Schroeder
- Gifts:** Dustin Beelner Family
- Communion:** Bill Sitzmann, Val Sitzmann, Becky Sitzmann  
Choir: Cindy Beelner
- KNH:** Karen Malm
- Greeters:** Marie Benedix, Verlyn Nafe, Charlene Nafe
- Ushers:** Tim Carlson, Perry Slota, Jamie Sitzmann, Loren Koch
- Collection**  
**Counters:** Linda Schlotman, Colleen Bainbridge

**INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK**

Adult Envelopes .....	\$2,123.00 (44 Envelopes)
Youth Envelopes* .....	\$56.50 (14 Envelopes)
Loose .....	\$302.00
Flower Fund.....	\$75.00 ( 5 Envelopes)
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$2,556.50</b>
Needed Each Week.....	\$2,877.89
<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$3,964.02</b>

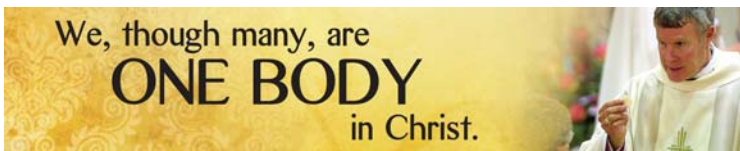
**\*Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes:** "Take care of our dog Help my dad & mom", "help babysit"

**BUDGET REPORT 2016-2017**

<b>Income needed by 30 June 2017:</b>	\$150,234.37
<b>Income needed each week:</b>	\$2,889.12
<b>Income received since 1 July 2016:</b>	\$69,404.89
12/16/2016	

**SMC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 18-24] burns for the People of W FCC.**

**Weeks available until December 25.**



	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>\$ Goal:</b>	\$12,000.00	\$13,000.00
<b>\$ Pledged:</b>	\$9,542.50	\$7,685.00
<b>\$ Given:</b>	\$9,542.50	\$7,097.50
<b>Pledges Goal:</b>	168	171
<b>Participants:</b>	102	74
<b>Participant Rate:</b>	61%	43%

**LADIES GUILD**

- If you need the prayer chain, please call Mary Lou Mockler 378-2283 or Lois Galles, 378-2045.
- If you are a member of St. Michael's Prayer Chain, please pick up an updated list in the back of church. Any questions, call Lois Galles, 378-2045.

**FROM THE DESK OF BARB SITZMANN, DRE:**

- Christmas caroling was postponed this past Wednesday due to the cold weather and has been rescheduled to Wed. December 21st. 8th and 9th graders will be caroling around Kingsley and at the nursing home. 10th, 11th and 12th graders will be taking Love Tree gifts to the nursing home.
- Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>- NO CLASSES- CHRISTMAS BREAK.
- Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>- FF classes resume.
- Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>- 4-7 pm- come and go- Reconciliation Learning Stations @ FF Center for all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their parents.
- Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>- 4 pm- First Reconciliation for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.
- Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>- 7 pm- First Eucharist meeting in Mo-ville for parents of all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders
- Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>- 7 pm in the church- Blessing of Throats
- Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>- Dad's Belgian Waffle breakfast fundraiser at the Kingsley Community Center. Serving from 8:30-12:30 Also having a bake sale and auction items. Youth of the parish will be selling tickets after Christmas break. Please plan to attend to support youth going to church camp, retreats and conferences.
- Faith Formation students have been given information regarding next summer faith events- Camp Cayoca will be available for students 3-12<sup>th</sup> grades. 8th-12<sup>th</sup> graders have received information regarding Steubenville conferences. Please let me know ASAP if your child is interested in attending either of these events. **JUST A REMINDER, THAT ALL CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES WILL NEED TO ATTEND A RETREAT OR CONFERENCE EITHER THE SUMMER BEFORE OR ELSE DURING THEIR CONFIRMATION PREP YEAR. ALL CURRENT 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS WILL NEED TO DO THIS!**
- Contact info: St. Michael FF Center 378-2021, Barb's cell 712-251-8567, home phone 378-2052, work phone 378-2861. Emails- FF [stmikedre@gmail.com](mailto:stmikedre@gmail.com), home [barbsitzmann@yahoo.com](mailto:barbsitzmann@yahoo.com), work [bsitzmann@k-pcsd.org](mailto:bsitzmann@k-pcsd.org).

*(Continued from page 1)*

**WW.FORMED.ORG** is available. The best Catholic content all in one place. Your parish has gifted you with unlimited access to the eBooks, talks and videos in the Church today. Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org), parish code enter f8d652.

**THE GLOBE** Visit The Catholic Globe's website, [catholicglobe.org](http://catholicglobe.org), for a photo gallery on the Cathedral of the Epiphany choir trip to Rome! Got news? Email [news@scdioocese.org](mailto:news@scdioocese.org) or call (712) 255-2550 or (800) 352-9035.

**CHRISTMAS ACRES 2016** The largest country Christmas display going until December 31, 5:00-10:00 p.m. at 18481 Impala Ave., LeMars. All donations go to the Christian Needs Center.



**MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 24 10:00 P.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Suzanne Putze, Sarah Putze, Paige Glackin
- Reader(s):** Jack Crew, Carol Glackin
- Cantor:** Gene Handke
- Organist:** April Schroeder
- Gifts:** Jan Wohlert Family
- Communion:** Richard Sands, Kay Sands, Mike Byers
- Ushers:** Doug Glackin, Tony Glackin

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 25 9:00 A.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Charlee Petersen, Casie Petersen, Zach Steffen
- Reader(s):** Brayden Sanford, Nick Hytrek
- Cantor:** Angie Williams
- Organist:** Amanda Schroeder
- Gifts:** Gary Hopper Family
- Communion:** Chuck Hoelker, Shelly Byers, Mary Schultz
- CharMac:** Elaine Ketelsen
- Ushers:** Jim Gries, Volunteer
- Collection**
- Counters:** Julie Brockhaus, Pam Cooper

**INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK**

Adult Envelopes .....	\$2,360.00 (57 Envelopes)
Youth Envelopes* .....	\$26.65 ( 8 Envelopes)
Loose .....	\$175.00
Candles .....	\$31.32
Flower Fund.....	\$10.00 ( 1 Envelope)
Interest Income.....	\$.75
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$2,603.72</b>
Needed Each Week.....	\$2,859.23
<b>Total Parish Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$2,655.35</b>

\*Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes: "make peapel smiel"

**BUDGET REPORT 2016-2017**

<b>Income needed by 30 June 2017:</b>	\$150,548.91
<b>Income needed each week:</b>	\$2,895.17
<b>Income received since 1 July 2016:</b>	\$88,836.40

12/16/2016

**ICC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 18-24] burns for Bobby Hayes+ at the request of Art & Sally Seidel.**

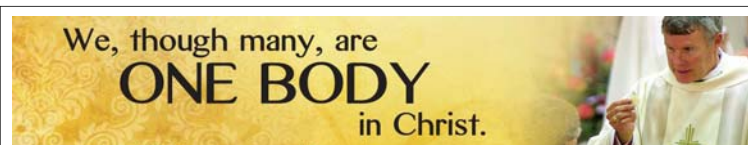
Weeks available after January 22.

**FROM THE DESK OF ANGIE DUFFY, DFF:**

- **December 21-** Maranatha program (PK-4<sup>th</sup>) for the 4:00 p.m. session. The program will begin at 4:30 p.m. with family cookie decorating to follow.
- **January 4-** Faith Formation classes resume.
- **January 9-** Reconciliation Stations at IC Parish Hall from 6:30-8:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents and child are required to attend.
- **January 11 & 25** CICC classes
- **January 12--** Faith Formation and Youth Ministry meeting at 7:30 p.m. IC Library.
- **January 22-** First Reconciliation at 4:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow.
- **January 25-** First Eucharist parent meeting at 7:00 p.m. at IC Parish Hall. The meeting is mandatory for all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Faith Formation parents.
- **January 29-** Youth Mass and breakfast. Any youth willing to help with the Youth Mass or breakfast, please contact Angie at IC office.
- **February 1-**Blessing of the throats during the 4:00 p.m. Faith Formation Classes.
- **February 22-** Deacon Joe Twidwell will be speaking to the 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation Classes about the service he performs at the Warming Shelter and his faith. Parish members are welcome to come and listen to Deacon Joe.
- St. Andrew Sibley is hosting a **mission trip** and inviting all diocesan youth. Please contact Christy Funk (712-577-9635 or 712-754-2739) at St. Andrew Sibley with questions and if you are interested in participating.
- **Camp Cayoca** at Twin Lakes, IA returns with a wonderful renewed experience, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades June 11-13 and 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades June 14-16.
- **Contact info:** Immaculate Conception Office 712-873-3644; Angie's cell 712-560-2593; email [icmvilleddff@wiatel.net](mailto:icmvilleddff@wiatel.net)

**Holy Spirit 2016-2017 Annual Appeal Update!** One Immaculate Conception parishioner resides at Holy Spirit. They have a \$50,000 goal this year, and are 15% to goal. To donate, please mail your contribution to: Holy Spirit Retirement Home – 1701 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St., Sioux City, IA 51103 or visit their online giving page at: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=a059a1>. Holy Spirit Retirement Home is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your gift will be tax deductible in the calendar year in which it was donated.

**AMAZONSMILE** - Support Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>. Amazon donates to the church. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-0796761>. Visit the parish website under About\Support our Mission page for an easy link.



	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>\$ Goal:</b>	\$11,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>\$ Pledged:</b>	\$8,847.50	\$8,170.00
<b>\$ Given:</b>	\$8,542.00	\$7,245.00
<b>Pledges Goal:</b>	151	171
<b>Participants:</b>	92	74
<b>Participant Rate:</b>	61%	43%



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Diane Ashley, Clarice Bainbridge, Leonard Beaver, Juanita Beaubien, Jim Berens, Rose Brown, Tom/Donna Clark, Virginia Connelly, Hilda Dragoo, Pauline Dugan, Kara Funk, Charlotte Honkomp, Virginia & Walt Kabisch, Mike Ketelsen, Millie Kisting, Harold Kloewer, Veronica Koebel, Patricia McConnell, Stanley Nilles, Beverly Petekavich, Rita Plendl, Bob/Patricia Rogers, Jim Roger, Judy Schroeder, Sylvesta Slota, Harlan/Fairy Steffe, Almeda Strachan, Bernice Timmins, Marcella Thomas, Jeune Vondrak, Gerry Weinriech, Emmet Woltman, and the men and women serving in the military and police.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- December 26: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 28: No Faith Formation
- December 30: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 31, 5:00 p.m.: Eucharist [K]
- January 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
- January 1, 9:00 a.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 2: OFFICES CLOSED
- January 3, 7:00 p.m.: ICC Guild Meeting [M]
- January 4, 10:00 a.m.: Eucharist [KNH]
- January 8, 10:00 a.m.: Coffee/Juice/Rolls (KC8232) [M]
- January 8, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 12: Royal Kingdom - Part 2) [M]
- January 9, 6:30-8:00 p.m.: ICC Reconciliation Learning Stations [M]
- January 10, 7:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 10, 7:30 p.m.: KC8232 Meeting [M]
- January 11, 11:00 a.m.: Eucharist [CharMac]
- January 11, 7:00 p.m.: SMC Guild Meeting [K]
- January 12, 7:30 p.m.: ICC Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Team Meeting [M]
- January 12, 4:00-7:00 p.m.: SMC Reconciliation Learning Stations [K]
- January 14, 6:00 p.m.: Fellowship Dinner (Guild) [K]
- January 15, 4:00 p.m.: SMC First Reconciliation [K]
- January 15, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 13: Divided Kingdom - Part 1) [K]
- January 22, 10:00 a.m.: Full Breakfast (KC8232) [M]
- January 22, 4:00 p.m.: ICC First Reconciliation [M]
- January 22, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 14: Divided Kingdom - Part 2) [M]
- January 25, 7:00 p.m.: WFCC First Eucharist Parent Meeting [M]
- January 29, 9:00 a.m.: ICC Youth Mass [M]
- January 29, 10:00 a.m.: ICC Youth Breakfast [M]
- January 29, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 15: Exile - Part 1) [K]
- February 1, 10:00 a.m.: Eucharist [KNH]
- February 1, 4:00 p.m.: Blessing of the Throats [M]
- February 1, 7:00 p.m.: Blessing of the Throats [K]
- February 5, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 16: Return) [M]
- February 6, 6:30 p.m.: WFCC Liturgy Team Meeting [M]
- February 8, 11:00 a.m.: Eucharist [CharMac]
- February 8, 7:00 p.m.: SMC Guild Meeting [K]
- February 12, 10:00 a.m.: Coffee/Juice/Rolls (KC8232) [M]
- February 12, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 17: Macca-

**WEST FORK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**ADMINISTRATOR/PASTOR:** Fr. Brad Pelzel 712-873-3644  
**Email:** Fr.BradP@scdiocese.org  
**Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper:** Alicia Jenness  
**Email:** icmoville@wiatel.net or stmichael@wiatel.net

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH:** 712-873-3644  
**Director of Faith Formation:** Angie Duffy  
**Custodian-Church:** Consetia Carley / **Custodian-Rectory:** Judy Gruis  
**Maintenance:** Bob Weatherly

**ST. MICHAEL CHURCH HALL:** 712-378-2722  
**FAITH FORMATION CENTER:** 712-378-2021  
**Director of Faith Formation:** Barbara Sitzmann  
**Email:** stmikedre@gmail.com  
**Custodian-Church:** Jan Meister / **Assistant Custodian-Church:** Jolene Spooner / **Custodian-FF Center:** Sonya Hamman  
**Groundskeeper:** Jerome Gollhofer

**WFCC [MOVILLE] OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.** 8:30 a.m.-noon, 1:00-5:30 p.m.  
**Wed.** 8:30 a.m.-noon, 1:00-5:30 p.m., 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Other times by appointment

**EUCCHARIST:**  
**Saturday:** 5:00 p.m.-Kingsley  
**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.-Moville  
**Monday, Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m.-Moville  
**Tuesday, Thursday:** 8:00 a.m.-Kingsley

**RECONCILIATION:**  
**Saturday:** 4:00-4:45 p.m.-Kingsley  
**Sunday:** 8:00-8:45 a.m.-Moville  
Other times by appointment

**ROSARY:**  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:30 a.m.—Moville

**BAPTISM** is to be arranged with the pastor in order to prepare for the child’s baptism after completion of Baptism Class held quarterly (March, June, September, December).

**MARRIAGE** preparation is to begin 6-12 months before the wedding day. Please contact the pastor so that all preparations can be completed in time for the wedding and marriage. **Remember, a wedding is just a day, a marriage is a LIFETIME!**

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** By appointment; last Sunday of October during Sunday Masses.

**Fr. Brad’s  
Christmas Gift Wish List**

**St. Michael**  
Cincture for Priest Set of 4 - \$80.00

**Immaculate Conception**  
3” Advent Candles